stations is made cveiy quarter by the Standing Linkage Committee (Short-Term), of the Ministry of Coal. The SLC (ST) is an intcrministerial body having representatives from Coal India Limited (CIL), coal companies, Ministry of Power, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the power utilities and the Railways. Allocation of coal is made keeping in view various related factors like availability of the required grades and quality, transport logistics etc.

Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB) have, in the past, requested certain linkages of coal for Ukai Thermal Power Station from Western Coalfields Limited (WCL). However, due to constraints of the Railways, the request of
GEB could not be agreed to.

(c) The average Gross Calorific Value (GCV) of non coking coals despatched from WCL in 2(MXM)1 is not more than that of Eastern Coalfields Limited.

Supply of coal to G.E.B., Gujarat

3986. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA :

SHRIMATI SAV1TA SHARDA :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased lo state :

(a) whether the Gujarat Electricity Board was allowed to take 50 per cent of coal instead of 68.7 per cent from Main Line and 50 per cent instead of 11.3 per cent from Korea Rewa;

(b) if so. since when and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the economic burden on Gujarat Electricity Board due to the change made by the Ministry in lhc percentage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Linkages of coal arc accorded evcr>' quarter by Standing Linkage Committee (Short-tcrm), an inter-ministerial body functioning in the Ministry of Coal, and comprising of representatives From coal companies. Central Electricity Authority (CEA). Ministry of Power. the power utilities and the Railways The allocations of coal are made, keeping in view the availability of required prudes and quantities and transport logistics.

Year-wise linkages of coal, accorded by SLC (ST) to (iu jural Electricity Board, from Korba (Mainline) and Korea Rewa Coalfields arc given below :

(Figures in Lakh tonnes)

Year	Linkage			% of Total inkagc	
	K-Rewa	Korba	Total	K-Rewa	Korba
1.	2	->	4	5	6
1096-97	55.50	57.45	112.95	49	5!
1997-98	53.55	75.00	128.55	42	58
1998-99	53.40	75.00	128.40	42	58
1999-2000	52.05	95.30	147.35	35	65
2000-2001	36.60	81,55	118.15	31	69

(c) Coal from mainline Korba Coalfields is cheaper than that of Korea-Re wa. There fore, the change in the pattern of linkage would mean less coal cost for GEB.

Arsenic contamination of Damodnr river by coal mine projects

3987. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Damodar river is being heavily contaminated due to How of arsenic from the coal mine projects located on both of river in Dakra and Rajrappa in Hazaribagh and in Bokaro;

(b) if so. whether any study has been made in this regard;

(c) if so, the detaiIs thereof; and

(d) what measures have been taken by Government in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OP STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAVVAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) The ambient quality of Damodar river is monitored on a regular basis in North Karanpura coalfields where Dakra mine is situated and in Ramgarh coalfields where Rajrappa mine is situated. So far arsenic has never been found beyond the tolerance limit statutorily prescribed. 11T. Kharagpur has earned out tests of the various samples collected in" command area of Central Coalfields Limited.